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OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



# 2014 Drought Response Report

## State Operations Center Situation Brief – February 21, 2014



# Situational Summary

The lack of winter rain and snowfall has resulted in extremely dry conditions in many parts of the State. Reservoir levels are down significantly from where they should be on average for this time of year. If conditions continue without substantial rainfall, severe impacts to municipal water supplies, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities are likely in store for the State for several months. Negative economic impacts will also result. The Governor has established a Drought Task Force to prioritize State actions needed to address these conditions. Governor Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions. The State Operations Center (SOC) is activated to implement objectives in support of the Governor's priorities.

Many local jurisdictions have enacted water conservation measures. The Office of Emergency Services is in close contact with counties and local officials to monitor the water conditions, agriculture and economy.

As a result of the drought DWR has informed the customers of the State Water Project (SWP) that deliveries in 2014 will be discontinued if current dry conditions persist. Deliveries to agricultural districts with long-standing water rights in the Sacramento Valley may be cut 50 percent (the maximum permitted by contract) depending upon future snow survey results. Storage in key reservoirs now is lower than at this time in 1977, one of the two previous driest water years on record. While additional winter storms may provide a limited boost to reservoir storage and water deliveries, it would need to rain and snow heavily every other day from now until May to get us back to average annual rain and snowfall. The allocation may change depending on future storm events.

# Drought Impacts

## 1. Drinking Water (updated 2/18/14)

- Individual households on wells and small water districts may have immediate and increasing vulnerability.

## 2. Fires (updated 2/18/14)

- Fire risk is high and will increase as the drought worsens. CALFIRE reports that the current fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of 147 fires, burning 478 acres and higher than the year-to-date figure in 2013 (127 fires burning 454 acres).

## 3. Economic Impacts(updated 2/18/14)

- Winter recreation businesses have taken a huge hit economically, due to the lack of snow, affecting ski resorts, snowmobile sales and repairs, lack of snowmobilers, cross country skiers, and families out for snow sledding.
- Lack of any spring runoff will affect the river rafting trade, kayakers, fishing, and in turn affect restaurants, motels, fuel sales, hardware & grocery stores. Without the water to release in the creeks there will be a negative impact to fish spawn.

# Drought Impacts (continued)

## 5. Agricultural Impacts (updated 2/18/14)

- California's current drought conditions will have significant negative agricultural, cultural, social and economic impacts. Limited hay production and increased salt build up in the soil will severely limit agricultural production by ranchers and farmers throughout the state resulting in fewer jobs and less revenue.

## 6. Community Impacts (updated 2/18/14)

- As a consequence of reduced agricultural production and impacts to other economic sectors, laborers from those sectors will be negatively impacted. Needs such as food and housing will become critical especially in agricultural areas.

# Federal Resources

On February 14, 2014 the White House announced emergency funding from several federal programs to support drought response. This announcement was coordinated with President Obama's visit to Fresno County. Emergency assistance includes:

- \$100 million in expedited livestock disaster assistance to California farmers and ranchers by USDA.
- \$60 million for California food banks to help families.
- \$5 million of funding for conservation projects at California farms and ranches, provided by USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- \$5 million for emergency watershed improvements to enable activities such as stabilizing stream banks and replanting bare lands.
- \$3 million for emergency grants to rural communities facing drinking water shortages.
- Summer food programs: The USDA committed to expanding the number of Summer Food Service Program meal sites to 600 locations in drought stricken areas throughout the state.
- Reduced water usage in federal buildings: Federal agencies were directed by the President to immediately reduce water use at federal facilities in California, including a moratorium on new non-essential landscaping projects.
- \$1 billion Climate Resilience Fund.
- \$15 million in targeted conservation assistance for the most extreme and exceptional drought areas.

# State Advance/Strategic Planning

State actions looking forward for 30, 60 120 days ahead will focus on:

- State and federal funding and legislative actions.
- Agricultural support, including USDA programs and other assistance to farmers.
- Actions to address water system operations and water supply, including curtailments, transfers, delta emergency actions.
- Actions to assess and assist with emergency needs related to drinking water.
- Assessment of hydropower generation, and any direct or indirect impacts to the electricity supply.
- Actions to address long-term habitat preservation.
- Community support needs and delivery of needed services such as food, rental/housing assistance, utilities assistance and support to non-profit organizations.
- Public health and safety issues such as increased fire threat, security threats, and activation of contingency plans.



# Current Missions

1. 2014-Inland-2185 Tuolumne County does not have a water master or any alternative resources to assist in determining the health of their ground water system. The County is requesting state agency expertise to assist with this determination.

# CDPH Drinking Water Critical Systems

Information as of February 14, 2014

System Name	County	District/LPA	Location
Camp Condor	Kern	Tehachapi	Taft, CA
Lake of the Woods MWC	Kern	Tehachapi	Frazier Park, CA
West Goshen MWC	Tulare	LPA	Goshen, CA
Whispering Pines Apts	Mariposa	Merced	Mid-Pines, CA
City of Willits	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Redwood Valley CWD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Redwood Valley, CA
Brooktrail Township CSD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Washington Ridge Conservation Camp	Nevada	Valley	Nevada City, CA
Ophir Gardens	Placer	LPA	Auburn, CA
River Highlands CSD	Yuba	LPA	Gold Village Subdivision Smartsville, CA

## Notes:

LPA = Local Primary Agency Usually a County Environments Health Department

CWS = Community Water System

CWD = County Water System

CSD = Community Service District

MWC = Mutual Water Company



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# CDFA Information Sessions on Drought Resources

California Department of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be holding informational sessions on drought resources for farmers, ranchers and farmworkers in several locations throughout the state

Date	Time	Venue	Address	City
2/25/2014	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Ventura Co. Agricultural Commissioner's Office	555 Airport Way, Suite E	Camarillo
2/26/2014	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	San Diego Co. Farm Bureau	1670 E. Valley Parkway	Escondido

# County Drought Task Force Meetings

County Drought Task Force Upcoming Meetings	
<b>Inland Region</b>	
County	Drought Task Force
Butte	
Madera	
Modoc	
Nevada	2/28/2014
Placer	3/5/2014
Plumas	2/24/2014
Sacramento	2/21/2014
San Joaquin	
Siskiyou	
Stanislaus	
Sutter	3/16/2014
Tehama	
Tuolumne	
<b>Coastal Region</b>	
County	Drought Task Force
Mendocino	2/26/2014
Monterey	
San Mateo	
<b>Southern Region</b>	
County	Drought Task Force
San Luis Obispo	3/4/2014
Santa Barbara	3/12/2014



# County Updates

## Placer:

- Ophir Gardens has a well with diminishing capacity that has been exacerbated over the last two years. This well provides water to 14 residences by pumping water into two tanks. Since the well is not producing enough water, a potable water truck is coming and filling the two tanks about every two weeks. The residents are paying for this expense. Placer County Environmental Health has reached out to Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) to see if they can add pipeline to provide water to Ophir Gardens. PCWA is stating that they would have to add approximately 2,000 feet of pipeline which would cost over a million dollars. There is one home owner willing to contribute \$100,000 towards the needed million dollars. Environmental Health and PCWA are looking into grants to help fund this project. In the meantime, the residents will continue to have potable water brought in a couple times a month and will have to deal with the financial hardship.

## Tulare:

- Tule River Indian Tribe passed a resolution on 1/30/14 declaring an emergency and imminent threat of disaster due to drought conditions. Resolution Number 2014-39.

# County Updates

## Tuolumne County:

- The County needs to evaluate the ground water systems that support 136 small water agencies and private well and septic owners that are not part of the Tuolumne Utilities District System (TUD). The County does not have a water master or other expertise to assist in determining the health of our ground water system. The County is requesting state agency assistance with this determination.
- The Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) has requested 2300 Acre Feet (AF) transfer from the New Melones reservoir to supplement their current water needs. A conference call was conducted with Inland REOC, SOC, Tuolumne County UD, Tuolumne EOC and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to discuss the County's concerns. Local solutions are being exhausted first. Coordination is continuing with TUD.

## Sacramento:

- Salinity in the Delta has moved upstream past the sensors so they are unable to measure the extent of the intrusion upstream in the Delta. The task force is looking at some options to assist local jurisdictions such as Folsom – including pumps, barges, pipelines, etc. Nine wells are being evaluated to see if they can be brought online. The City of Folsom is still at a Stage 3, 20% water reduction. It is looking to use non-potable water for construction needs and tanks to reuse water when servicing pipes. Coordination is continuing with Sacramento Drought Task Force.

# County Updates (continued)

## Mendocino:

- Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) submitted a Prop 84 funding project request to California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Head Quarters. The total project cost is estimated to be \$400,000, and they are asking for the maximum amount of Prop 84 funding for this project of \$250,000. The project calls for building a 6-inch intertie between the RVCWD system and Calpella County Water District. The intertie and associated pump could provide up to 300 gallons per minute (gpm) to RVCWD's approximately 4,000 customers (1,400 residential connections). However, it will not cover the cost to upgrade the Calpella/Millview intertie which will be needed to reach the full capacity of the intertie. The water system is still looking for funding/alternatives for this part of the project. The funding agreement, if approved, will require that RVCWD is no longer supplying agriculture and that RVCWD has mandatory conservation levels for their residential customers. It will also require that they have contracts in place with Calpella County Water District to transfer the water and with another community water system (with adequate water rights) to supply the water before fund reimbursements are given.
- Water districts have reported issues with DFW/SWRCB/DWR flow/variance permits, requiring them to release more water than they want to release.
- The City of Willits reported that they were applying for an additional \$500,000 from USDA.
- Cal OES is continuing to coordinate the situation in Mendocino County.

# County Updates (continued)



# Weather Synopsis by Region

## February 21, 2014

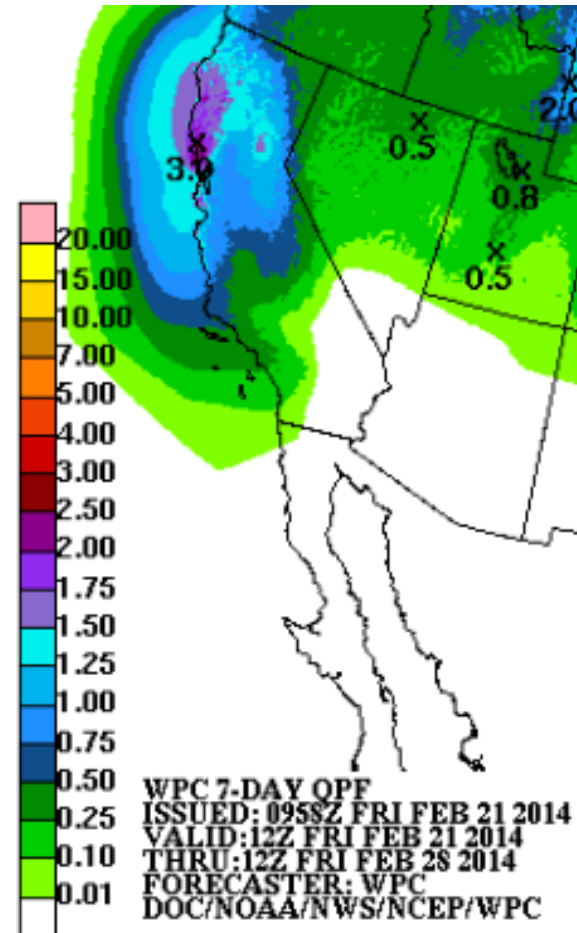
### Northern & Central California

#### Eureka Weather:

A northwest flow behind a disturbance that passed through last night will bring the chance of continued showers mainly near the Oregon border today through Thursday. Drier and warmer weather is expected late in the week continuing into early next week.

#### San Francisco Weather:

A weak storm system is moving through the area this morning producing very light rain. High pressure will return by this afternoon bringing a return of dry weather and warmer temperatures through early next week.



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# Weather Synopsis by Region

## February 21, 2014

### Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

#### Sacramento Weather:

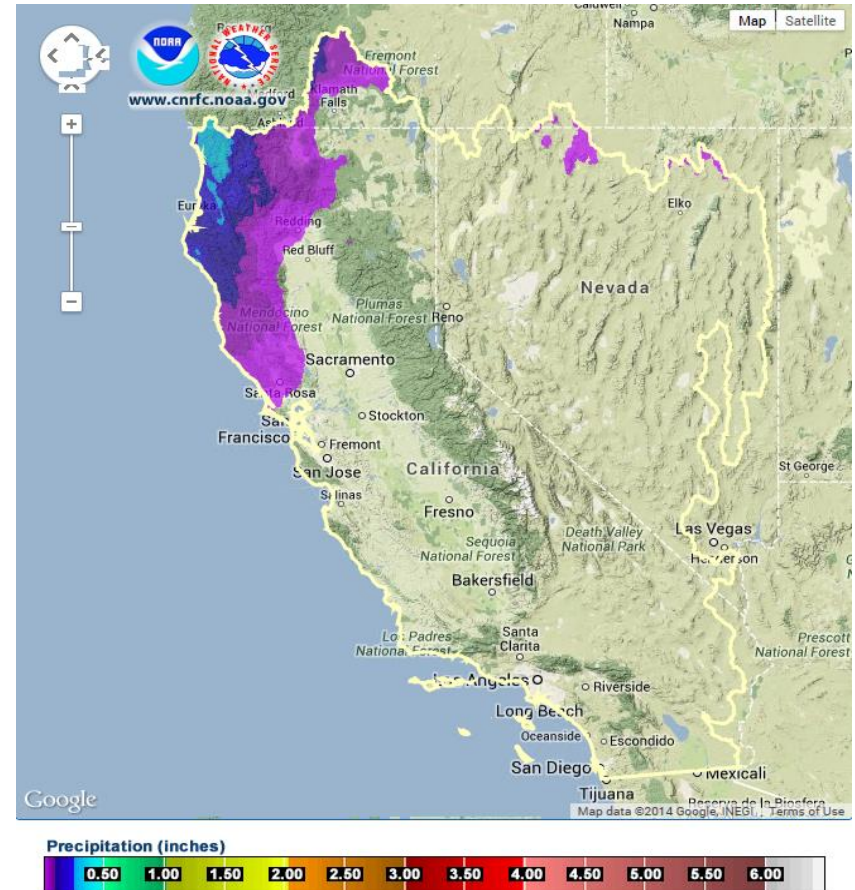
A weak weather system will exit the region to the east with a few showers lingering over the northern Sierra this morning. Building high pressure brings dry and milder weather Thursday into early next week.

#### Hanford Weather:

A mainly dry storm will move through the area today. Windy conditions and areas of blowing dust are possible in the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and in the Kern County Mountains and Deserts this afternoon and evening. Dry conditions with mild temperatures will prevail into early next week.

### California Precipitation Graphic

5 Day (2/21/14 – 2/26/14)



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# Weather Synopsis by Region

## February 21, 2014

### Southern California

#### **Los Angeles Weather:**

High pressure will bring gusty winds to the area today with the strongest winds across Santa Barbara County and through the Grapevine. The winds will weaken on Thursday as a warm and dry air mass settles into the area through the weekend. A cooling trend should develop on Sunday and persist into early next week.

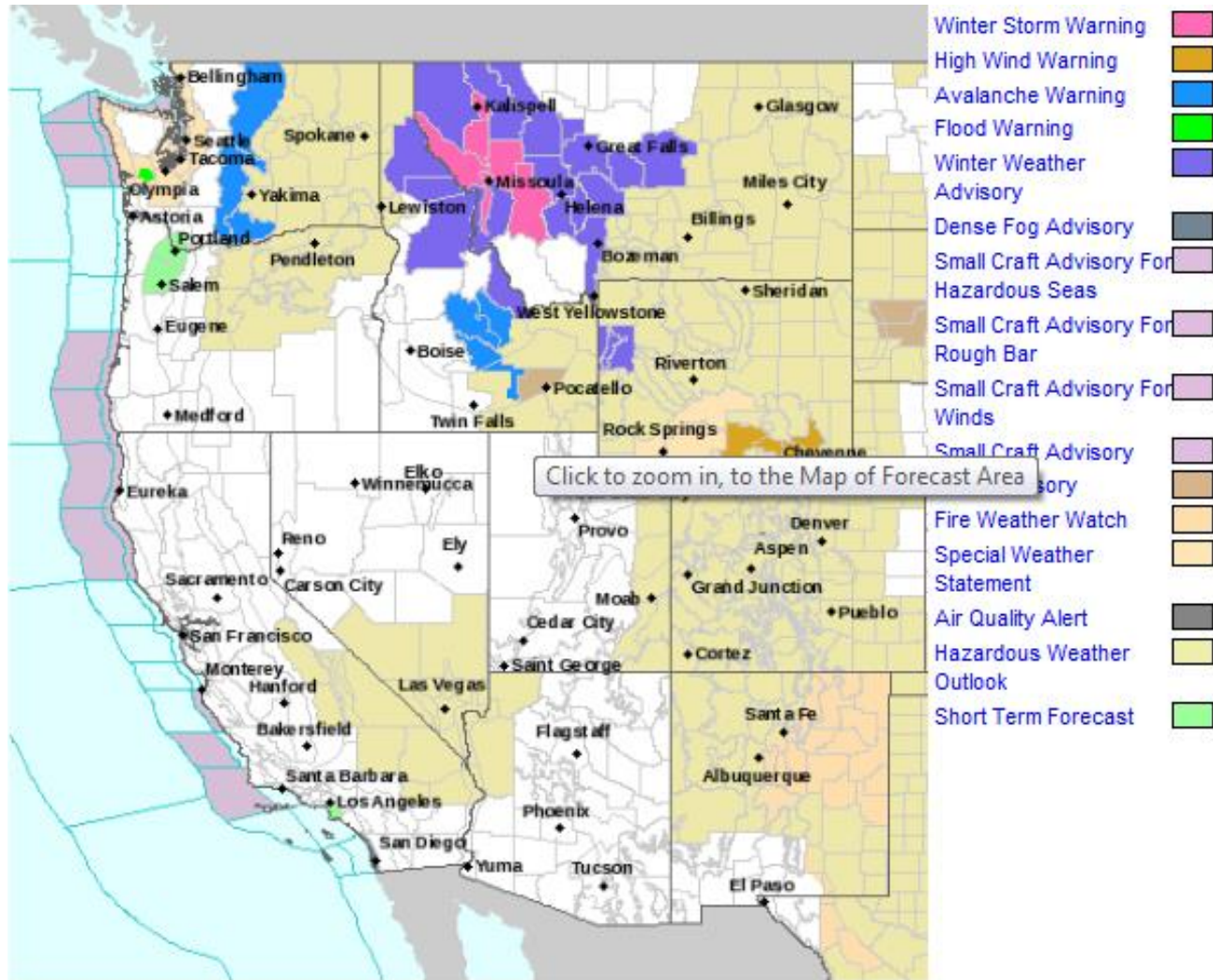
#### **San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather:**

Stronger onshore flow will bring cooler temperatures and a deeper marine layer into Wednesday. It will also bring stronger and gusty west winds to the mountains and deserts. A brief period of stronger offshore flow with gusty northeast winds near the coastal foothills will follow for Wednesday night and Thursday. Warmer and dry with weaker northeast winds at times for Friday is forecast through next weekend

#### **Southeast California Weather:**

A dry cold front will cross the region today and tonight bringing gusty winds and lowering temperatures to near normal by Thursday. Warmer conditions are likely to return over the weekend and into early next week.

# State Weather Map



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## National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



### Legend

#### Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

#### High Risk Events

### California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Thu Feb 20	Fri Feb 21	Sat Feb 22	Sun Feb 23	Mon Feb 24	Tue Feb 25	Wed Feb 26	Thu Feb 27
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marine								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

#### Weather

High pressure will take over the region's weather pattern today thru the weekend. Afternoon temperatures are expected to warm by 10 degrees in many areas. There will be a few periods of light NE/Offshore winds thru Sunday morning. Conditions are expected to be dry into the middle of next week. Winds then shift to the SW-W late Sunday as the high moves east of the region. This will begin a gradual cooling trend and then set the stage for a return to wet weather by late next week as a series of Pacific storm systems are expected to move onshore across CA.

#### Fuels/Fire Potential

Fuels in all PSAs should remain in the **Moist** category thru the 7-day period in spite of some drying under high pressure and light NE/Offshore winds early in the period. Recent rains have begun a new green grass crop in many areas below 3000 ft.

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/7Day.pdf>

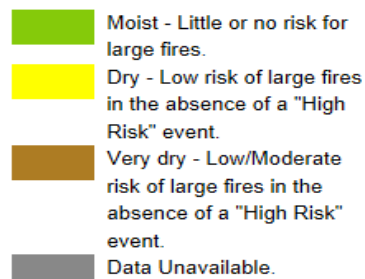


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## Legend

### Fuel Dryness



### High Risk Events



### Missing Stations

- Devore

# California - South Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Issued: Friday, Feb 21, 2014

Parameters:

Predictive Service Area	Thu Feb 20	Fri Feb 21	Sat Feb 22	Sun Feb 23	Mon Feb 24	Tue Feb 25	Wed Feb 26	Thu Feb 27
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

### Weather

A ridge of high pressure off the California Coast will continue to bring well above normal temperatures today, with mid 50s to mid 60s in the mountains and mid 70s to mid 80s in the valleys. Minimum humidity will be mainly between 12% and 25% away from the coast and Central Valley today. The ridge will weaken bringing a cooling trend and an increase in humidity to the region Saturday through Tuesday. Winds will be light through Tuesday. A Pacific trough will bring near to a little below normal temperatures to the region Wednesday and Thursday. This trough will also bring showers to Central California starting Wednesday afternoon, with light showers moving into Southern California by Thursday morning. A strong storm looks to bring widespread significant rainfall to the entire region Friday into next weekend. There will be strong south to west winds mainly over the mountains and deserts Wednesday into next weekend.

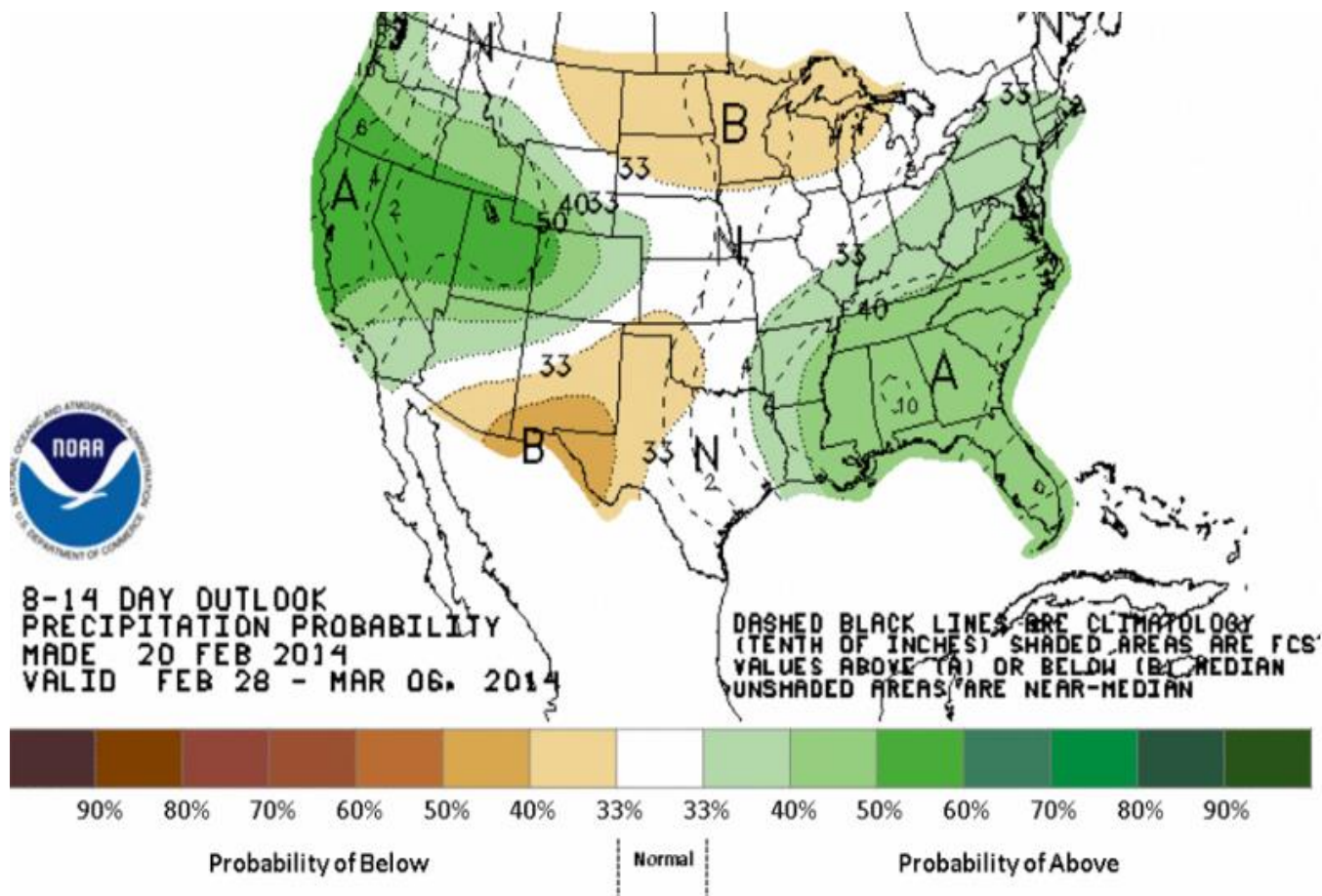
<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8>



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## 8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for February 28 – March 6, 2014

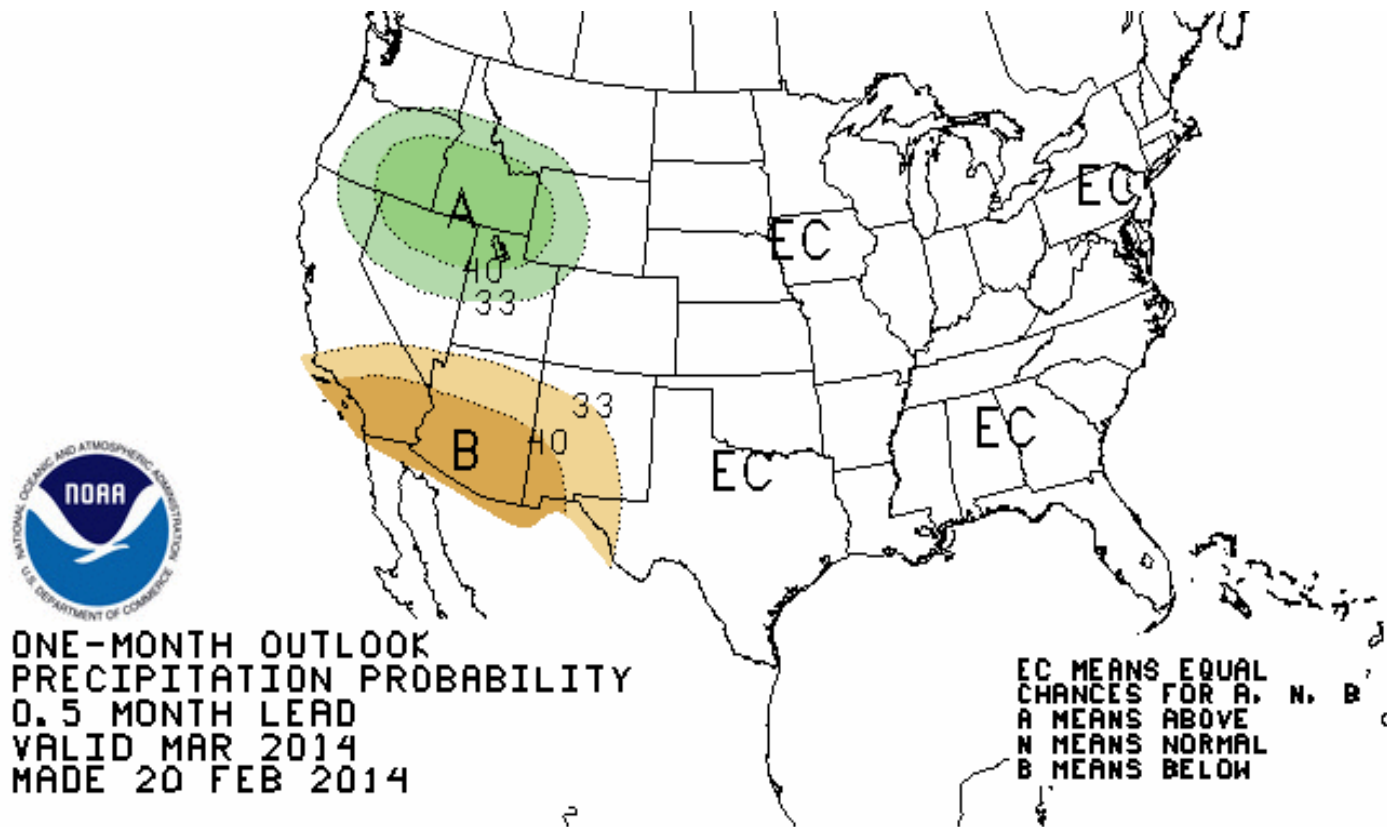


<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>



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## February Precipitation Probability Outlook



There is a greater chance for below normal precipitation in Southern California for the month of February.

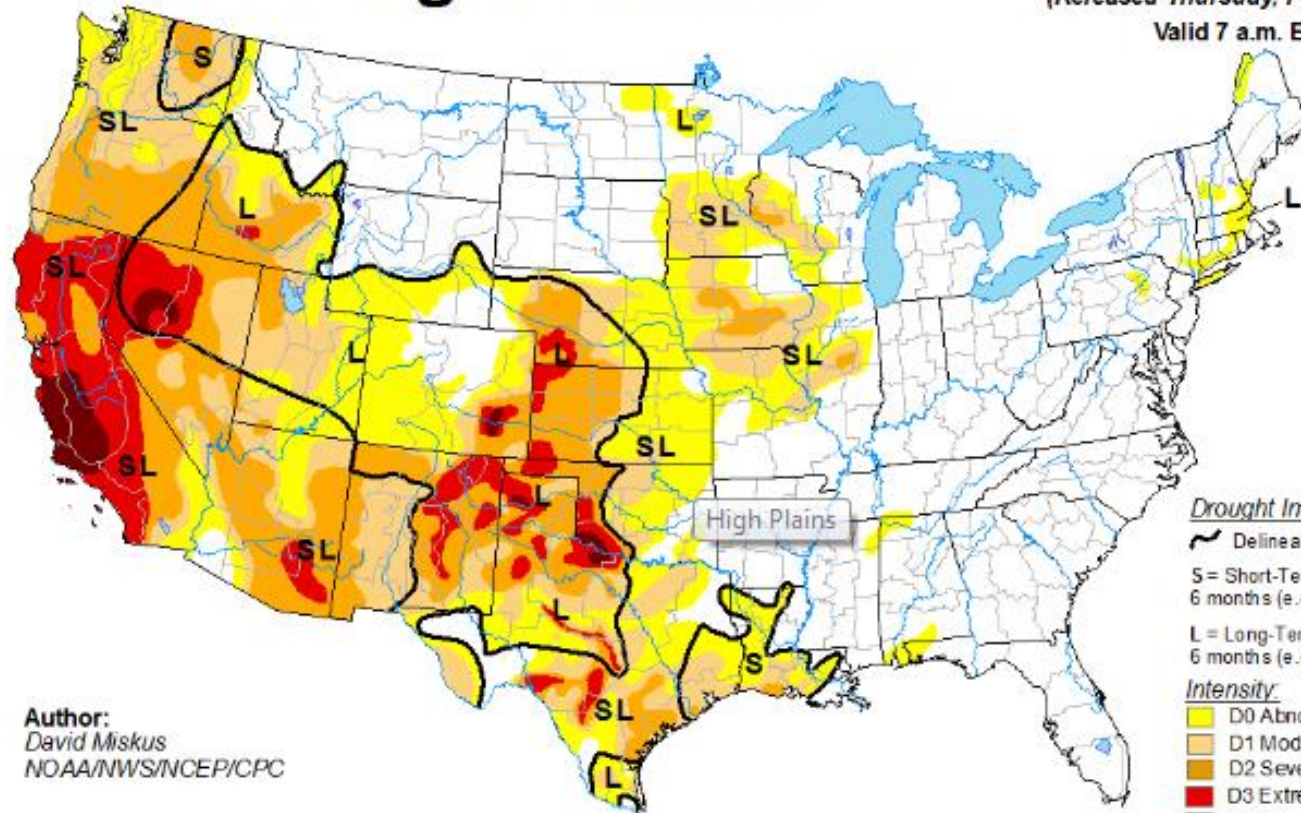
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



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# U.S. Drought Monitor

February 18, 2014  
(Released Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:  
David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

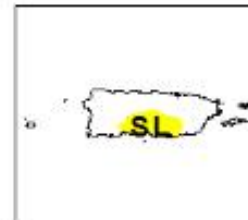
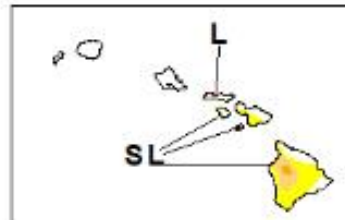
## Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

## Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

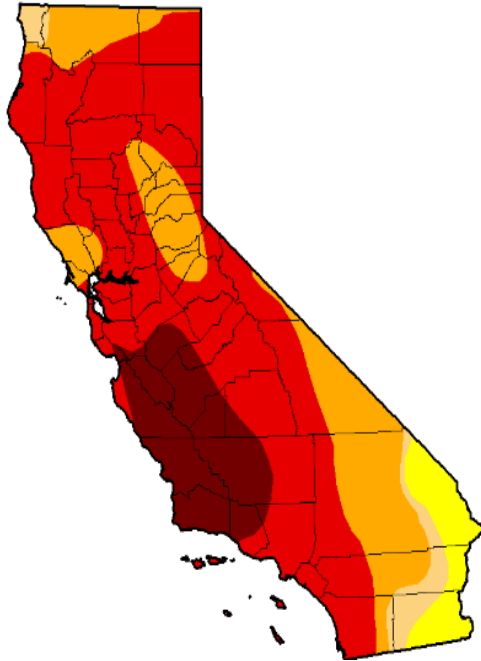
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



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# Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

## U.S. Drought Monitor California



February 18, 2014  
(Released Thursday February 20, 2014)  
Valid 7 a.m. Eastern



Statistics type: ☒ Traditional (D0-D4, D1-D4, etc.) ☐ Categorical (D0, D1, etc.)



Drought Condition (Percent Area):

Week	Date	Nothing	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2/18/2014	0.00	100.00	94.54	90.82	68.30	14.62
Last Week	2/11/2014	1.43	98.57	94.54	91.59	60.94	9.81
3 Months Ago	11/19/2013	2.61	97.39	96.00	84.12	27.59	0.00
Start of Calendar Year	12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year	10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago	2/19/2013	15.45	84.55	47.18	23.72	0.00	0.00

[View More Statistics](#)

### Intensity:

 D0 - Abnormally Dry  
 D1 - Moderate Drought  
 D2 - Severe Drought

 D3 - Extreme Drought  
 D4 - Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying [text summary](#) for forecast statements.

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 61% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>





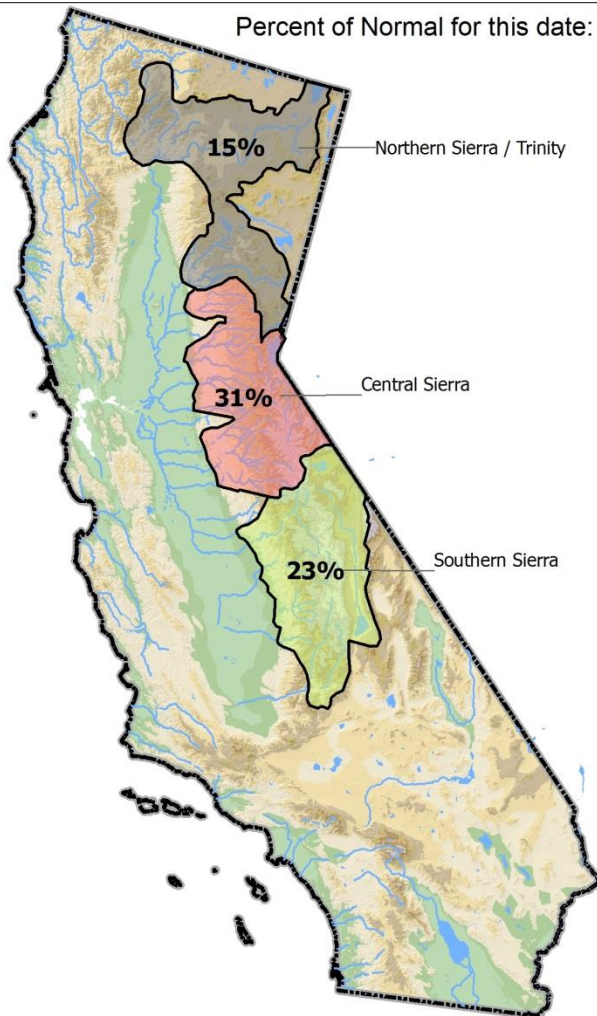
2014 Drought

# Statewide Summary of Snow Water Content

Current Regional Snowpack from Automated Snow Sensors

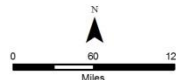
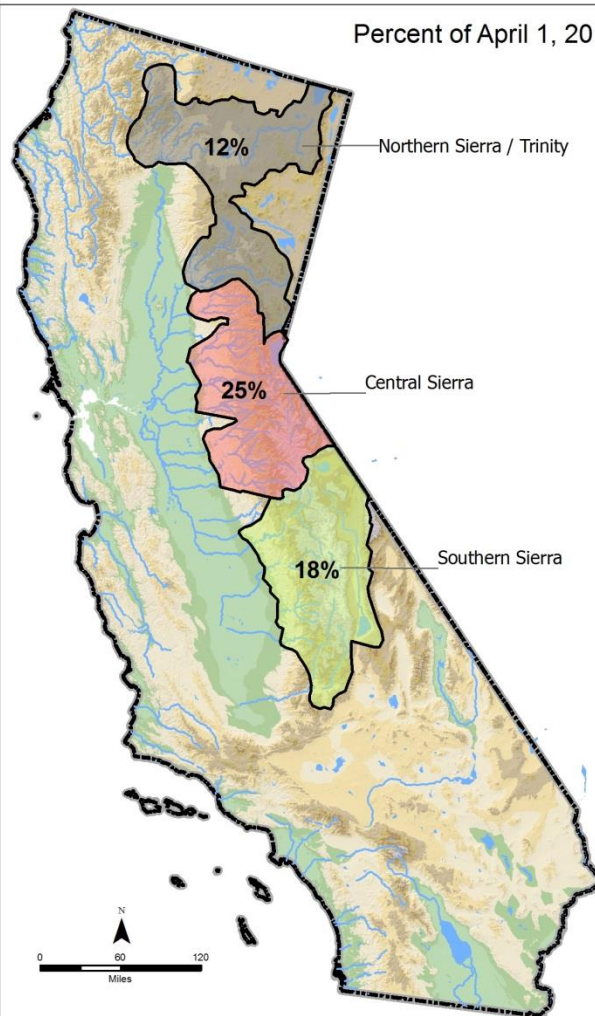


Percent of Normal for this date: 2/20/2014



Source: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/DLYSWEQ>

Percent of April 1, 2014 Average



Printed: February 20, 2014

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/snowapp/sweq.action>



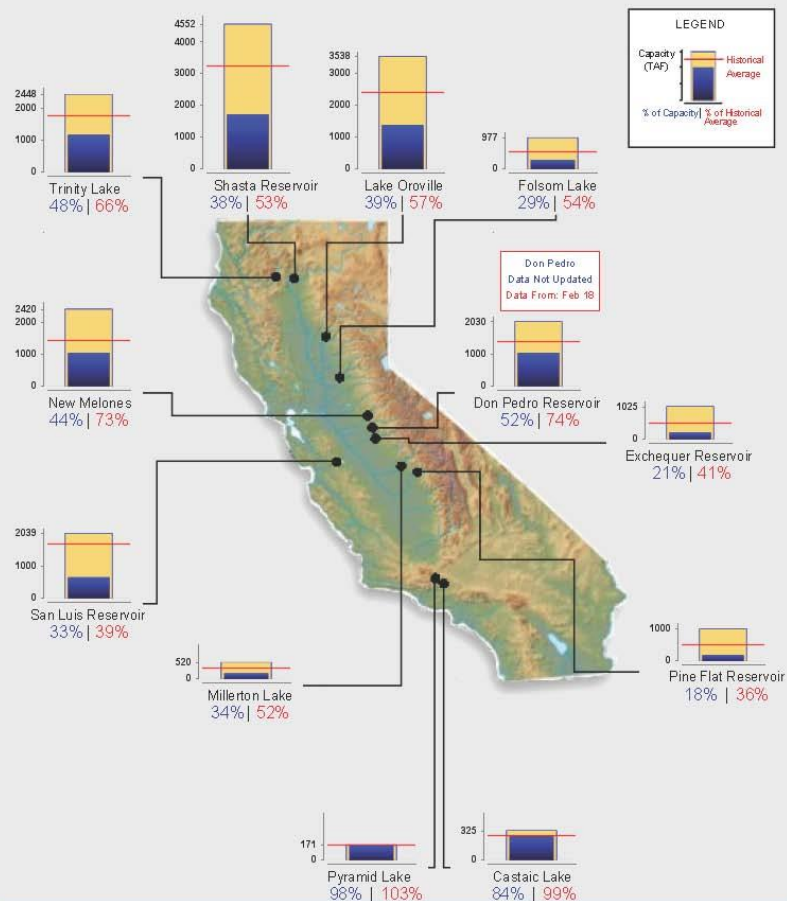
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# Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - February 19, 2014

## CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



Graph Updated 02/20/2014 09:15 AM

## Reservoir Levels

Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/resapp/getResGraphsMain.action>



# Proclamations

## State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

## Counties

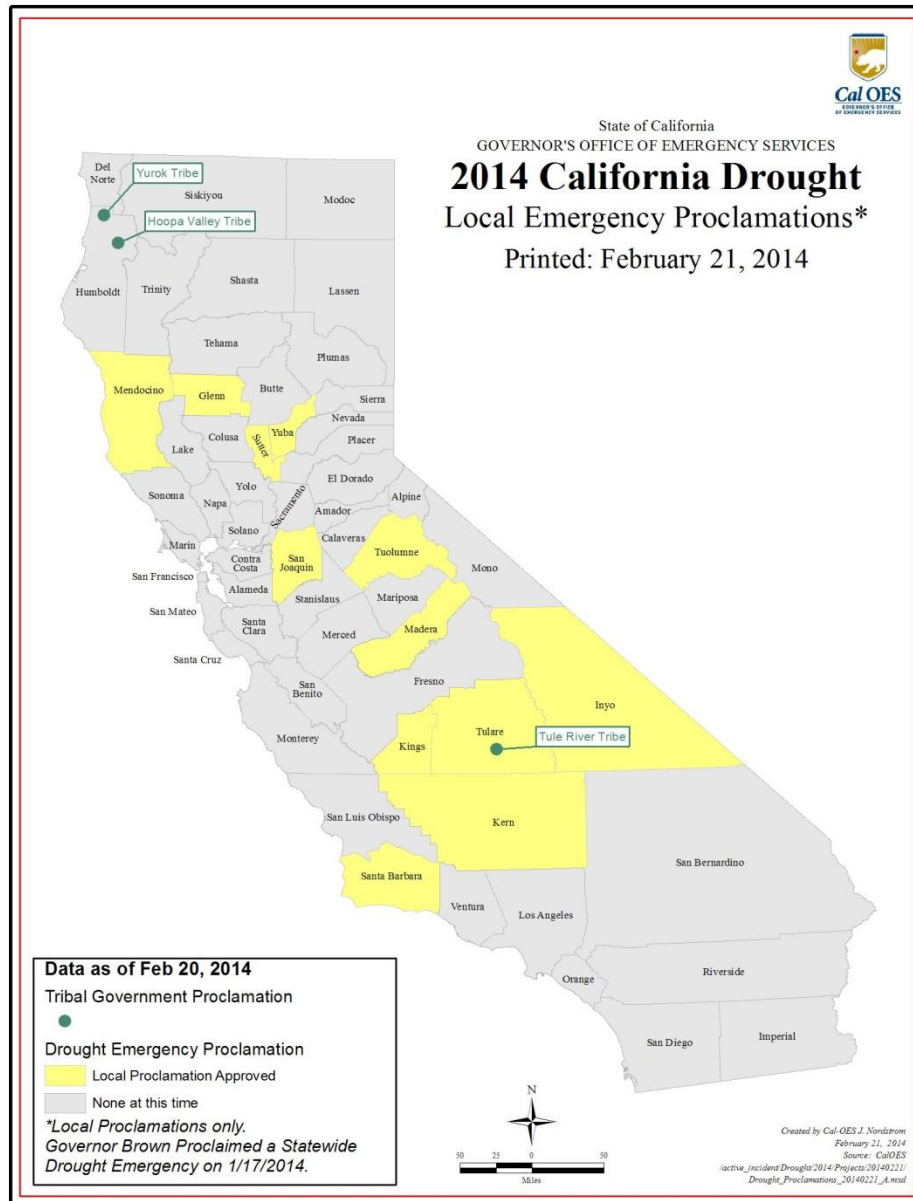
Glenn (1/22/14)  
Inyo (1/29/14)  
Kern (1/14/14)  
Kings (1/14/14)  
Madera (1/17/14)  
Mendocino (1/7/14)  
San Joaquin (1/28/14)  
Santa Barbara (1/17/14)  
Sutter (2/11/14)  
Tulare (2/4/14)  
Tuolumne (2/4/14)  
Yuba (2/18/14)

## Tribal

Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)  
Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)  
Tule River Indian Tribe (1/30/14)

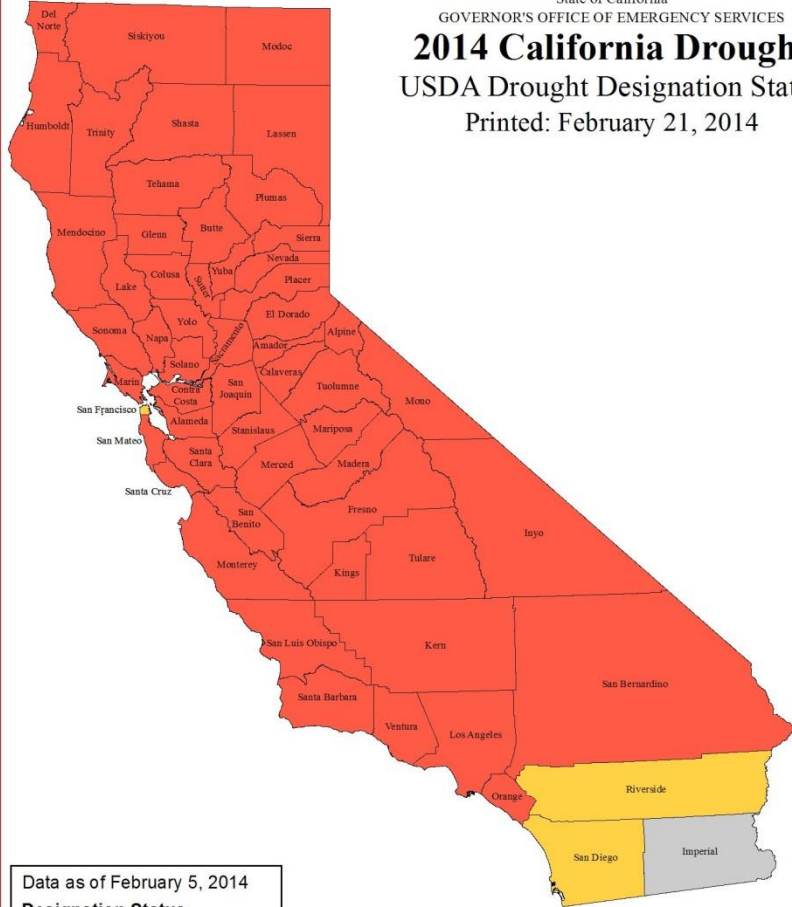
## Federal

None





State of California  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
**2014 California Drought**  
USDA Drought Designation Status  
Printed: February 21, 2014



Data as of February 5, 2014

**Designation Status**

- Primary
- Contiguous
- None

Created by Cal OES J. Wurdeman  
February 21, 2014

Source: USDA, Cal OES  
active\_incidents Drought 2014 Projects 20140221  
USDA\_DroughtDisasterDesignations\_20140221.mxd

## USDA Disaster Designation

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 54 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 3 contiguous counties. This means that the only county in California that has not received a primary or contiguous county designation for 2014 is Imperial.



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# USDA Disaster Designation – Individual Assistance

## 2014 SBA\* DISASTERS

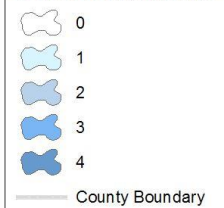
State of California  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

### Individual Assistance

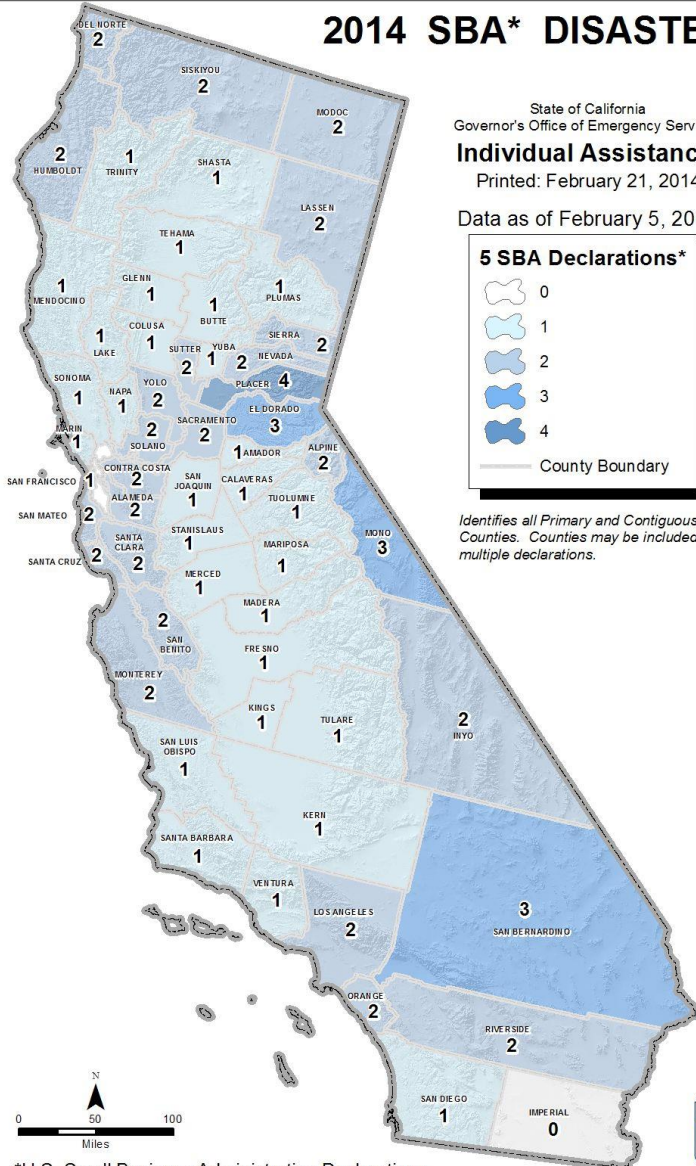
Printed: February 21, 2014

Data as of February 5, 2014

#### 5 SBA Declarations\*



Identifies all Primary and Contiguous Counties. Counties may be included in multiple declarations.



\*U.S. Small Business Administration Declarations



## 2014 USDA\*\* DISASTERS

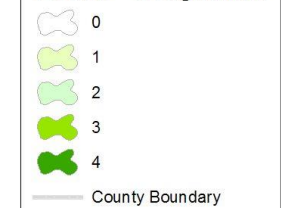
State of California  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

### Individual Assistance

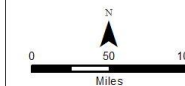
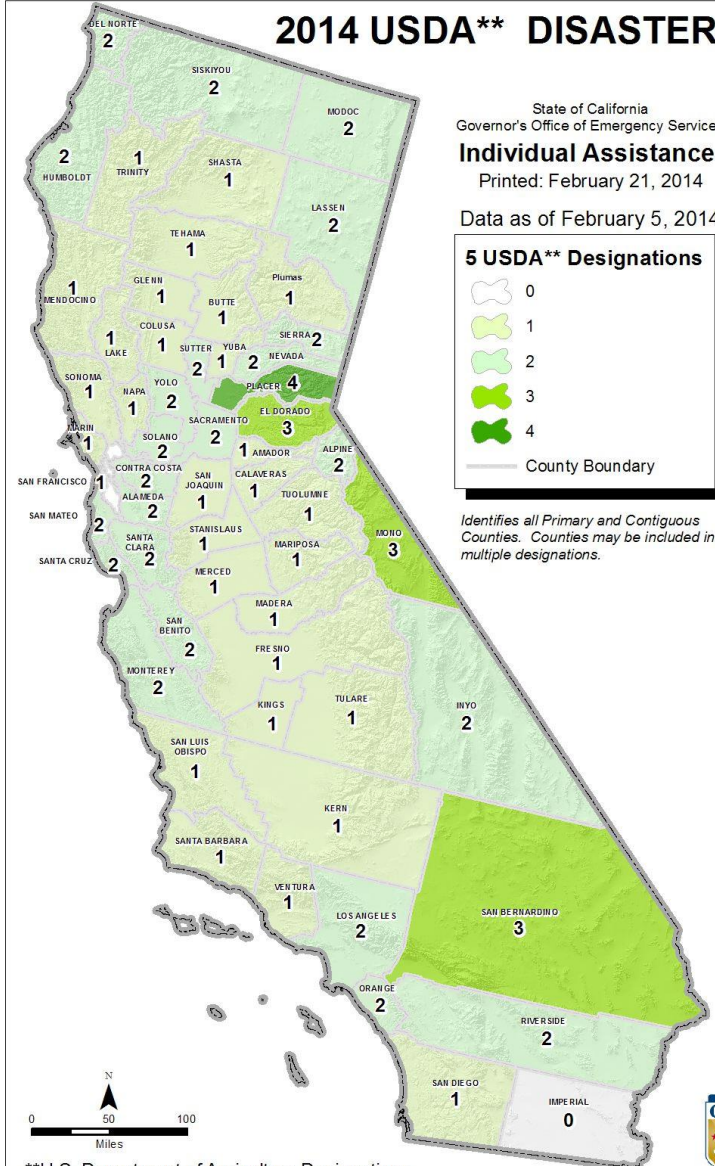
Printed: February 21, 2014

Data as of February 5, 2014

#### 5 USDA\*\* Designations



Identifies all Primary and Contiguous Counties. Counties may be included in multiple designations.



\*\*U.S. Department of Agriculture Designations

